

FOGLAND BEACH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Minutes 10 October 2007

Members present: T. Ramotowski (Chairman, Conservation Commission), J. Cook (Recreation Commission), M. Van Hof (Open Space Commission), D. Merriman (Neighborhood Representative).

Members absent: G. Steckman (Town Administrator), D. Webster (Director of Public Works) and a representative from the Harbor Commission.

Also present (5:35 PM): C. Spenser (Town Planner).

Chairman Ramotowski called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM at the Tiverton Community Center, 346 Judson Street.

I. Public Delegations

There were no public delegations.

II. Administrative Matters

• **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Cook made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of August 8, 2007 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Merriman.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Cook made a motion to approve the minutes from the post-season Fogland Beach inspection tour of September 20, 2007 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Merriman.

VOTE: The motion passed 3-0-1 (Mr. Van Hof abstained).

• **Miscellaneous Correspondence**

Chairman Ramotowski noted that he had sent a memorandum to Mr. Steckman confirming that the erection of new, free-standing signs at Fogland Beach would need CRMC approval. That activity was not allowed as "routine maintenance", although the re-erection or repair of an existing sign would be. Mr. Cook noted that the Recreation Commission was still trying to find the money to pay for the signs. Mr. Merriman pointed out that some pre-existing signs had either been knocked down or stolen and needed to be re-erected or replaced. Mr. Merriman suggested that the ends of the signs be

emplaced in concrete or post-crete to make it more difficult for vandals to pull the signs out of the ground or knock them over.

III Committee Member Reports

- **Town Administrator**

There was no report.

- **Director of Public Works**

There was no report.

- **Recreation Commission**

There was no report.

- **Conservation Commission**

Chairman Ramotowski stated that he had not yet been able to check with the Harbor Master to determine if the mooring in the north cove that was significantly displaced from the rest of the mooring field (and closer to shore) was out-of-place or illegal. Mr. Cook asked who determined how many moorings could be placed off of Fogland. Chairman Ramotowski replied that the CRMC regulated the location and number of moorings in the field. It did appear, however, that this particular mooring field has been growing in size over the years.

- **Open Space Commission**

There was no report.

- **Harbor Commission**

There was no report.

- **Neighborhood Representative:**

Mr. Merriman stated that the Town police patrols at Fogland were still inadequate, especially after dark. Open fires are frequently seen on the beach after dark, and rarely are police present to direct the responsible parties to put out the fires. Mr. Van Hof noted that the Open Space Commission was also having problems with unknown persons lighting bonfires at the end of Lafayette Road. The police have been unable to apprehend the responsible parties for those fires as well.

Mr. Merriman stated that the aerial photographs to be taken and used as the basis of the Fogland map/survey should be taken at high tide – not low tide, because the land below the mean high-tide mark does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Town.

IV. Progress Towards Common Goals

- **Detailed Map/Survey of Town-Owned Property at Fogland**

- **Status of RFP for Fogland Survey/Map**

Chairman Ramotowski asked Mr. Spenser when he might have a draft of the RFP for the Fogland map/survey ready for the Oversight Committee to review. Mr. Spenser stated that he had not yet spent much time on the project. Mr. Spenser asked for copies of the previous draft RFP and also for details on the RI-DEM grant that the Oversight Committee had obtained. Chairman Ramotowski promised to provide Mr. Spenser with the documents and information he had requested. Mr. Spenser stated that he hoped to have a draft ready for the Oversight Committee to review by the time of its next regular meeting in December.

- **Long-Term Management Plan for Fogland Beach**

Chairman Ramotowski noted that progress on this issue will occur once the survey/map has been produced.

V. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the October 10, 2007 meeting of the Fogland Oversight Committee adjourned at 5:45 PM.

These minutes were prepared by T. Ramotowski.